General Chemistry Laboratory I
CHEM 161L
Instructor: Daniel Brayton Ph.D.
Contact: dbrayton@hawaii.edu
Office hours: Bilger 213 12:30-1:30 pm

How to communicate with us: Email is best, there is also a google form, which is designed to capture some of the information we need in order to be able to deal with your requests. Please use the form so that there is not an extended back-and-forth. The link to that form can be found under “Announcements” under CHEM 161L in your Laulima account.

The General Chemistry I lab is designed to introduce you to basic concepts of quantitative and qualitative measurement.

To save you the expense of a textbook, the Chemistry Department has prepared a laboratory manual which is available at the MaPS store on the campus of the UH College of Education, across from Sinclair Library on University Avenue, not at the bookstore.

Location: http://manoa.hawaii.edu/crdg/curriculum-materials/maps/contact-us/

Laboratory schedule: the Schedule for laboratories is posted on laulima

How we communicate with you: Your TA or I will communicate with you through Laulima or email to your hawaii.edu email address. It is your responsibility to monitor that address. If you wish to respond, please do this from your hawaii.edu email address so that your message does not end up in the SPAM folder.

Laboratory Safety: There will be up to 24 students per section. In order to be able to conduct the lab safely, there are a few rules:

No horseplay! If we catch you fooling around, you’ll be kicked out of the day’s lab with a score of ZERO. I will decide whether the infraction warrants further punishment.

You are required (no exception, don’t even dream of asking) to come to lab with proper attire, which includes ALL of the following: knee-length pants or skirts (I decide what constitutes knee-length, not you. My decision is final), close-toed shoes, safety goggles (to be worn at all times inside the lab), long hair tied back, tops & shirts that cover the shoulders and mid-riff.

No cell phone use in the lab, no cell phones on the lab benches. Your cell must be switched off and stowed away for the duration of the lab.
How the lab runs: We run many labs concurrently on a tight schedule. In order to get you through in a timely fashion, so we do this “one size fits all” and it is your responsibility to adjust your schedule to that of the lab or withdraw from the course. BE ON TIME, BECAUSE WE START ON TIME.

The lab starts with a brief quiz covering questions from the previous week’s lab and of the day’s lab. You should therefore have read and understood the manual. The TA may also go through some lecture material that the CHEM 161 lecture instructors have provided.

Next, the TA will give a brief presentation on the days’ lab. Then it’s your time to shine and do the experiment. You will be working in groups of two. Make sure that you have all data and understand all the things you have done so that you can write the lab report.

Grading: The lab report is due at the beginning of the following lab period a week later.

Late reports will be marked down 20%/day. The lab reports will be graded and returned to you for you to track where you stand and to improve your work if necessary.

The final grade will be computed on the basis of the following distribution:

Quiz 20%

Homework 20%

Experiment, Lab Report, and TA points 60%

Absences, make-up labs: Unexcused absences will yield a score of ZERO for the week. There will be NO MAKE-UP labs for ANY reason. If you miss more than two labs you will not earn a passing grade, NO EXCEPTIONS. Excused absences (court date, funeral, professional trip, athletic event) require PRIOR authorization by me. I decide what constitutes an excuse.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: I have a zero tolerance for plagiarism and any other form of submission of the work of others as your own. If we catch you, you will be getting a grade of “F” for the entire course.